

April 18, 1997

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-97-034

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility
Commonwealth Edison Co.
Zion 1 2
Zion, Illinois
Dockets: 50-295,50-304

Licensee Emergency Classification
Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: DECISION NOT TO REPLACE STEAM GENERATORS

Commonwealth Edison announced on April 17, 1997, that it would not replace the steam generators at the Zion Station. Replacement of the steam generators would be about a \$400 million project.

As a result of the decision, Commonwealth Edison stated that Zion Station would be shut down before the expiration of its operating licenses in 2013. The utility said the steam generators would "most probably" support operation to 2005.

Both units at Zion are currently shutdown. Unit 2 was shut down for refueling in September and Unit 1 was shut down February 21 due to an inoperable containment spray pump. The plants remain shut down for extended outages to address performance issues.

The States of Illinois and Wisconsin will be informed.

The licensee issued a news release on its decision at 3 p.m. (CDT) on April 17, 1997. This information is current as of that time.

Contact: DAVID HILLS
(630)829-9733

MARC DAPAS
(630)829-9628

9704180186 970418
PDR I&E
PNO-III-97-034 PDR

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